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Overcoming History, Becoming European?

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Propositions

Stellingen

1. The European spirit, if it still exists, is kept alive east of Berlin and Prague.
2. The current rise in extremist right-wing politics throughout Europe is partially fuelled by the failure of the European Union (EU) to construct an accurate historical identity narrative.
3. The EU's normative power has never been solely defined in Brussels, but is rather the product of politicised claims from outside the EU. The EU should either actively deconstruct this normative power, or live up to the expectations.
4. Historical revisionism through parliamentary debates, laws, and declarations is a real risk, even when parliaments allegedly suffer from crises of legitimacy.
5. "Moving forward" after violence may be the first concern of political elites (more often than not perpetrators). But victims generally desire something else: truth, reparation, and justice.
6. Studying narratives should be an integral part of academic policy analysis.
7. Academic search engines should do better to include scholarly publications from outside the Global North - if only to make researchers residing abroad and/or incapable of reading the domestic language, aware of their extensive knowledge gap.
8. Commuting by bike in Sofia and Belgrade makes for a happy researcher.